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CLAIMS

1. A method for treating ambient air, consisting in drawing or in circulating the air (1) through a permeable container (4, 6) in which is placed at least one treating agent (2), characterized:
- in that the treating agent (2) is used as a bactericide, fungicide, virucidal and insecticide, in addition to mechanical filtration of the air, and is distributed uniformly inside the container (4, 6), so as to prevent the development of microorganisms on the container itself.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized:
- in that the treating agent (2) is composed of crystals of mineral salt, in particular sodium chloride (NaCl).
3. The method as claimed in either one of claims 1 and 2, characterized:
- in that the treating agent (2) contains elements of natural origin (12), in particular of plant origin, such as clove.
4. A device for implementing a method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized:
- in that it comprises, between two microperforated sheets (8, 8') for mechanical filtration of air, a layer of bactericidal, fungicidal, virucidal and insecticidal treating agent (2) which is distributed uniformly between said sheets (8, 8') so as to prevent the development of microorganisms on the walls.
5. The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized:
- in that the container is any one of the containers of the group of containers comprising a case (4), a net and a double-walled flexible container (6).

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6. The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized:
in that it comprises means for circulating air
through the container by ventilation (34).

5 7. A device for implementing a method as claimed in
any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized:

in that it comprises at least any one of the
following successive treating agents:

- 10 - a layer of foam (16) for a first mechanical
filtration,
- a layer of mineral salt crystals (2) for
bactericidal, virucidal, insecticidal and/or
fungicidal treatment of the air,
- a fine mechanical filter (18),
- 15 - a layer of fragmented plants (12),
- a fine mechanical filter (18),
- a compartment (22) for treatment of air by radiation
(24, 25),
- a fine mechanical filter (18),
- 20 - a layer of active charcoal (26).

8. The application of a method as claimed in any one
of claims 1 to 3, to calorie-exchanging devices of the
group of devices (38) comprising air conditioners,
25 heating appliances, refrigerating appliances, and
ventilation and air-recycling appliances.

9. The application of a method as claimed in any one
of claims 1 to 3, to organic waste containers of the
30 group of containers comprising household waste sacks
(32), landfill pits for fermentable material and
transformation containers for organic waste.

10. The application of a method as claimed in any one
35 of claims 1 to 3, to elements for coating a building
surface.